

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL RO

SUBJ: ROMANIAN EXHIBIT NOMINATION UNDER ARTICLE III.10 OF
U.S.-ROMANIAN PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES

1. COUNCIL FOR SOCIALIST CULTURE AND EDUCATION SUBMITTED LETTER TO EMBASSY ON JUNE 4 NOMINATING RUG AND TAPESTRY EXHIBIT FOR SHOWING IN U.S. UNDER ARTICLE III (10) OF THE PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES. EXHIBIT CONSISTS OF 56 PIECES OF 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY WORKS WITH ANTIQUE AND FOLK MOTIFS. THEY TOTAL 200 SQUARE METERS AND REQUIRE A 350 TO 400 SQUARE METER EXHIBIT AREA FOR EFFECTIVE DISPLAY, ACCORDING TO COUNCIL LETTER. GROSS SHIPPING WEIGHT IS ESTIMATED AT 700 KILOGRAMS INCLUDING FIVE OR SIX PACKING CRATES.

2. COUNCIL HAS REQUESTED WE ATTEMPT TO PROCURE SITES IN WASHINGTON SUCH AS NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART OR NATIONAL COLLECTION OF FINE ARTS; IN NEW YORK AT MUSEUM OF FOLK ART OR COOPER MUSEUMS OF DECORATIVE ART AND SUGGEST THAT DETROIT OR CLEVELAND BE LAST CITY ON US FOUR CITY ITINERARY FOR EXHIBIT SINCE PLAN IS TO SEND IT TO CANADA AFTER US SHOWING. COUNCIL LETTER SAYS IT PLANS TO SEND EXHIBIT AROUND MID-SEPTEMBER AND HOPES THAT FIRST SHOWING CAN OPEN IN MID-OCTOBER.

3. WE HAVE INFORMALLY ADVISED COUNCIL AND WILL REPEAT IN FORMAL LETTER IN RESPONSE TO NOMINATION THE FOLLOWING
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POINTS WHICH WE HAVE MADE TO COUNCIL FUNCTIONARIES ON

NUMEROUS OCCASIONS SINCE LAST AUTUMN WHEN POSSIBILITY OF THIS EXHIBIT WAS FIRST MENTIONED;

A. NOMINATING LETTER AT THIS TIME DOES NOT PROVIDE SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME FOR ADEQUATE SITE SURVEYS. MOREOVER, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ANY MAJOR GALLERIES WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR EXHIBITS ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE. IN CASE OF ROMANIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTING EXHIBITION IN 1973, THE SITE SURVEYS WERE COMPLETED IN FEBRUARY AND THE FIRST SHOWING WAS IN JULY AT CORCORAN GALLERY OWING TO SUMMER SEASON LULL IN EXHIBIT COMMITMENTS. US GALLERIES (SUCH AS THOSE MENTIONED BY COUNCIL) PLAN THEIR EXHIBIT COMMITMENTS AS MUCH AS TWO TO THREE YEARS IN ADVANCE. THE FALL SEASON IS THE BUSIEST AND USUALLY THE MOST HEAVILY PROGRAMMED.

B. NO SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS REGARDING SITES CAN BE MADE UNTIL SURVEYS ARE COMPLETED.

C. INTERNAL US TRAVEL COSTS FOR SHIPPING EXHIBIT WILL BE BORNE BY THE ROMANIAN SIDE PURSUANT TO THE REIMBURSEMENT FORMULA OF THE IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS (WHICH INCIDENTALLY WE HOPE TO SIGN TOMORROW OR MONDAY).

D. COUNCIL SHOULD SUBMIT NOMINATION OF ROMANIAN SPECIALISTS FOR SITE SURVEY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE PURSUANT TO IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS.

4. A COPY OF THE COUNCIL LETTER, OUR RESPONSE AND ADDITIONAL DETAILS INCLUDING PHOTOS OF WORKS FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM. WE NOTE THAT COUNCIL COOPERATION FOR PHOTOGRAPHY USA EXHIBIT WAS IN FULL COMPLIANCE OF IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS. WE ARE AWAITING THEIR CALCULATIONS OF INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION COSTS TO CARRY OUT REIMBURSEMENT FORMULA.

5. POST SUGGESTS IEE CONSULT SITE SURVEY PREPARED BY JOHN KARTCH FOR ROMANIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTING EXHIBITION IN 1973 FOR BACKGROUND AND CONTACTS.
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